

**Ida's  
Notebook**  
by  
**Ida Risser**

This October it is 25 years that I have written an article each week for Lancaster Farming newspaper. Added up that would be 1300 separate items. Some-

times it is easy to write and other times it takes a while to get started.

Over the years I've shared my family's life with the readers. When I started in 1970, my two

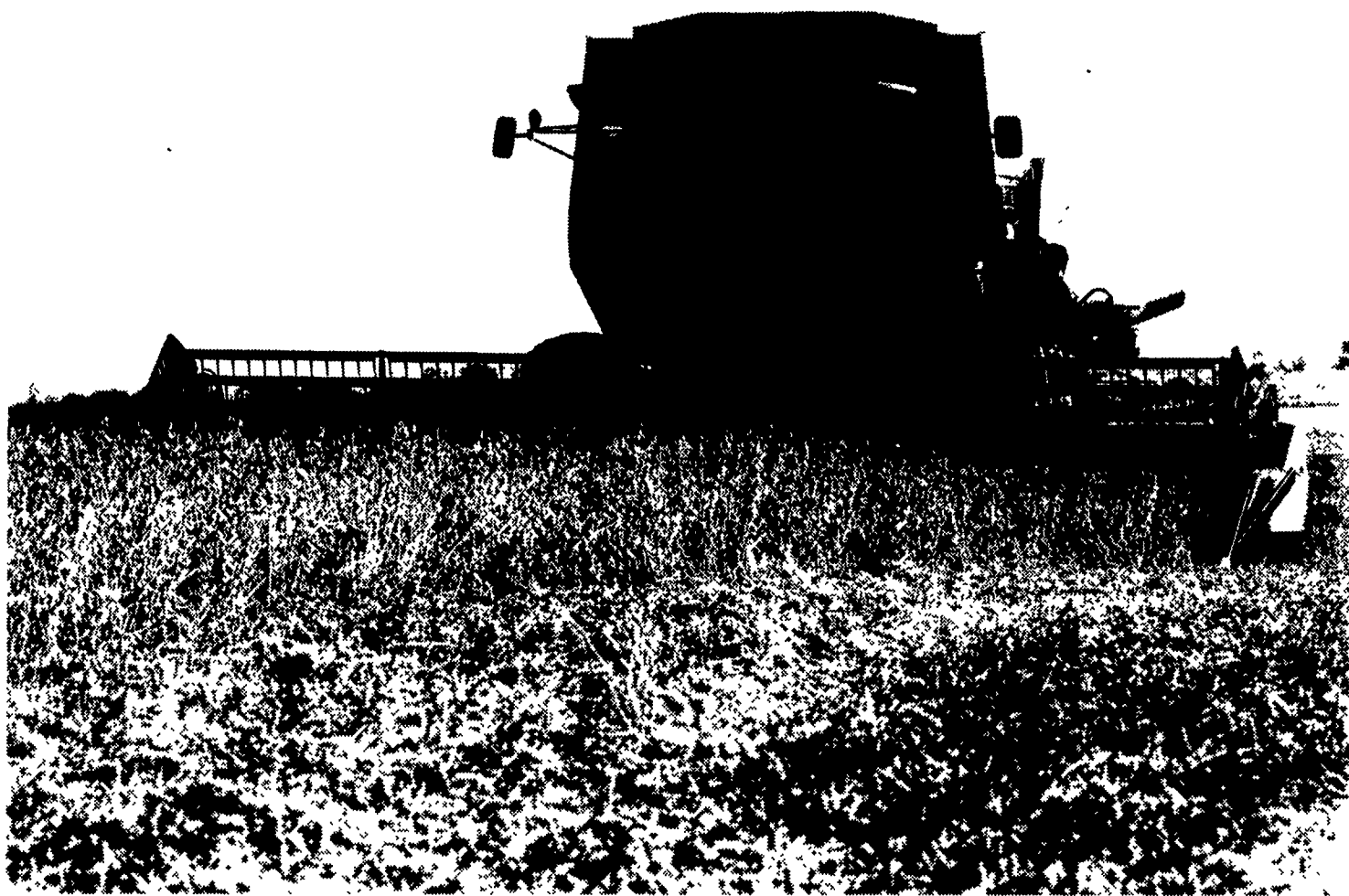
oldest were in college, my two youngest were in elementary school, and the two others were in high school.

It was a busy time in my life and there were many things to write about as our children were quite active in school, church and 4-H. My parents had just moved off the farm as all of their farm buildings were torn down to make way for a new Route 222. The next decade was busy as I tried to care for both my children and my parents. I'm sure many people find themselves in this same predicament.

When the editor introduced me to the readers in the October 17, 1970 issue he said, "Ida's Notebook is written by a farm wife who has been faithfully keeping a diary since she was 16 years old. The column is informal enough to make room for both the big events and the little details of farm life which together make farming what it is."

In that same issue of 1970, I counted 10 public sales. Today there are nearer 110—and I should know as I call the auctioneers each Monday morning to get a Sale Report. Another difference is the size of the newspaper and also the subscription price which was two dollars a year in 1970.

I have shared births, weddings, and deaths with the readers. Some of them in turn have written to me or phoned to say "keep writing." I'm hoping I can do that for a while longer.



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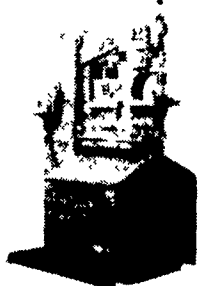
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